AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

1. Please insert the following new paragraphs into the specification following line 5 of page 10 of the application.

Other features of the circuit in Fig. 2 will now be described. Circuit 208 is an n-channel input differential amplifier, with differential input signals VINL and VIPL, and output signals VOPL and VONL. Transistors M72 and M67 form the n-channel differential pair and accept the differential input signals VINL and VIPL, respectively. Transistors M82 and M83 are used as cascode devices to control the drain to source voltages across transistors M67 and M72, respectively. Transistors M5, M25, and M30 form a current mirror to mirror the drain current of M67 to output signal VONL. Transistors M15, M28, and M29 form a current mirror to mirror the drain current of M72 to output signal VOPL. The output of the n-channel differential amplifier 208 is a differential current into the differential output VONL and VOPL. Transistors M46, M99, M48, and M47 are the biasing circuit for transistors M82 and M83. Transistors M66, M91, and transistor 218 form a current source, which provides bias current 217 to the differential amplifier 208.

Circuit 207 is a p-channel input differential amplifier, with differential input signals VINL and VIPL, and output signals VOPL and VONL. Transistors M11 and M10 form the p-channel differential input pair and accept differential input signals VINL and VIPL, respectively. Transistors M52 and M53 are used as cascode devices to control the drain to source voltages across transistors M10 and M11, respectively. The output of the p-channel input differential pair is a differential current into the differential output VONL and VOPL. Transistors M84, M89, M81, and M88 are the biasing circuit for transistors M52 and M53. Transistors 209 and M19 form a current source, which provides bias current 215 to the p-channel differential pair. Transistors M8, M58, M59, and M6 form a load circuit for the p-channel differential pair of 207 and the n-channel

differential amplifier 208. The differential output currents from the p-channel differential pair of 207 and from the n-channel differential amplifier 208 are summed together at the differential output VONL and VOPL, and converted to a differential voltage VONL and VOPL by the load circuit. VOPL and VONL represent the differential output voltage of the combined p-channel amplifier 207 and n-channel amplifier 208.

Fig. 2 also includes other supporting circuitry. For example, transistors M12, M13, M32, M4, M56 and M57 form a slew enhancement circuit. The slew enhancement circuit is described in a co-pending application 10/109,633 assigned to the same assignee. M98 is a cascode transistor in series with current source 210. There are also four bias voltages depicted in Fig. 2, namely VB1L, VB1H, VSON, and VSOP. VB1L is the bias voltage for p-channel current source transistors M13, 209, and M46. VB1H is the bias voltage for n-channel current source transistors M88, 210, and M91. VSOP is the bias voltage for p-channel cascode transistors M19, M29, M47, M30, and M80. VSON is the bias voltage for n-channel cascode transistors M4, M84, M66, and M98.

As described above, the specific embodiment in Fig. 2 includes a current steering circuit that directs the bias current to the n-channel amplifier 208 and p-channel amplifier 207, according to the reference voltage Vref (or Vnode221) and an input voltage Vin (or Vnode213). Both amplifiers 207 and 208 supply differential output signals VOPL and VONL to the same pair of differential output nodes. However, circuits 207 and 208 are not limited to any specific type of circuit. Similarly, the output signals of circuits 207 and 208 are not limited to differential output signals.

2. Please amend the last paragraph on page 8 between lines 25 and 32 as follows.

In a second mode of operation, steering circuit 200 draws a significant amount of current from node 212. In other words, during the second mode of operation,

current 214 is approximately equal to the amount of current supplied by current source 209, while the current ~~215~~ flowing through transistors M11 and M10 of the p-channel differential amplifier 207 is negligible. This results in the current through transistor 203 and the mirrored-current through transistor 218 to be also approximately equal to the amount of current supplied by current source 209. Thus, relatively speaking, current flows through circuit 208, but not through circuit 207, during the second mode of operation of steering circuit 200.